

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHINA.

A PROGRESSIVE INSTITUTION SPARED BY THE EMPRESS'S COUP D'ETAT.

Ithaca, N. Y., Nov. 4. The world has heard much of the reaction which followed the recent coup d'état in Peking, by which the Empress Dowager virtually deposed the reforming Emperor and banished or beheaded the reformers. In the wake of personal disasters followed fast and furiously likewise the schemes for national amelioration. A school system intended for the provinces was nipped in the bud. Fortunately, however, "to the surprise of everybody," writes a correspondent in Peking, "the Empress regent, after vetoing several progressive measures, made an exception in favor of the new university."

Last October I wrote: "In the programme of reforms set forth by the Emperor recently, which I believe, will yet be carried out, Dr. Martin has been authorized to organize a Chinese university, which is likely to change the key of national education and intellect."

Happily this hope and belief are now fulfilled, and the University of China, projected on modern lines of science, is already an accomplished fact. The enterprise originated with Li Hung Chang and enjoys his powerful protection. The palace of a deceased princess was appropriated for its use and a fund of 5,000,000 ounces of silver set apart for its maintenance.

The veteran educator, the typical American in China Dr. W. A. F. Martin, was appointed head and organizer, and the first faculty or department, that of arts, letters and philosophy, which includes much modern science, is now fully organized and has been for months in daily activity.

On the last day of the year 1898 the edifices were formally opened with imposing ceremonies. Four hundred students, nearly all of whom are high class graduates of Chinese schools, of young men of noble families, were matriculated. The faculty consists of eight foreign professors and sixteen native scholars as assistant professors.

The university edifices are handsomely situated, and from one of the gates there is a glimpse afforded of the Imperial gardens, with their rolling landscape, hills and intervals, summer pavilions, pleasure kiosks and moon viewing pagodas.

The university starts with books and letters, but it does not stop there. It will have laboratories and apparatus. Already a school of medicine has been opened, and schools of mining, agriculture and engineering are soon to follow. Presently China is not too old to learn. Education is in the air. Even a conservative Chinese Government must fall in with the spirit of the day. There is hope for China when she becomes self-reforming.

WILLIAM ELLIOT GRIFFIS

INVENTIONS THAT ARE CAUSED.

From The New Orleans Times-Democrat.
One of the best mechanical engineers in New Orleans told an interesting story apropos of the tribulations of inventors. "About three years ago," he said, "I got up a little device that greatly simplified the working of a certain type of pump. I took out patents that cost me in the neighborhood of \$300, including attorney's fees, and finally submitted the thing to a big manufacturing concern in the North. The proprietors at once conceded the merit of the in-

vention, and offered me \$500 down and a royalty of \$125 on each one used. The cash payment amounted to nothing, for it really fell short of covering my time and expenses, but the royalty was generous, and I figured it out that it would yield me an income of \$3,000 or \$4,000 for several years—perhaps longer, it depended on how soon something better entered the field. Accordingly I accepted the proposition and transferred all my right. Now, how much do you think I actually received? Not a penny! No, I haven't been cheated; at least all the accounts have been perfectly straight. The trouble is they never put the device on the market. They simply stuck the patents and drawings in a pigeonhole and there they remain to this day. Why did they do it, did you ask? To save money. The public is very well suited with their pump as it stands, and it is doubtful if they could get any more for it with my improvement added. Such a step would merely cut down the net profit, so they prefer to let well enough alone. It was necessary, of course,

COREA AND THE RUSSIANS.

WISE CONCILIATION BY THE CZAR'S GOVERNMENT.

MANY COREAN COLONISTS IN SIBERIA RECEIVE LIBERAL COUNTIES RUSSIAN ANNEXATION PREDICTED.

Kioto, Japan, September 29.—The pursuit of pleasure was not the only reason for taking a trip last month to Corea and Vladivostock, although it was very pleasant to escape the damp heat of the month of August in Japan, and the change from the trying humidity of even a mountain resort in this country to the bracing atmosphere of the Corean coast

it must be within three years now when with any appearance of knowledge or after having considered the matter carefully with due opportunity of study thought it likely to be deferred longer than ten years. Even some Japanese, and they were not lacking in loyalty, patriotism said they thought it was sure to happen, and saw no sufficient reason for Japan's going to war with Russia to prevent it. Corea is at present wretchedly governed.



BUILDINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHINA, IN PEKING.

Showing the Imperial Gardens in the background.

to get my invention safely shelved, or it might have been taken up by some enterprising rival, and the only earthly reason for spending \$500 on the thing was to put it out of the way. It was rather rough on me, to be sure, but the experience was valuable, and I won't get caught that way again."

AN ANCIENT PATRIOTIC FUND.

From The London Globe.

An appeal which ought to meet with a generous response is made on behalf of Lloyd's Patriotic Fund. It was originally established in 1803 by the subscribers to "Lloyd's" to relieve the sufferers of the French war, and has since that date expended no less than £725,000 in relieving the widows, orphans and dependent relatives of officers and men killed in action, and for the help of men disabled in service. It is wholly distinct from the Patriotic Fund, and has made no appeal for subscriptions since 1825,

and the crispness of the air during the few days spent at Russia's great naval station on the Pacific was most conducive to health. So much is said and heard of Russia's sphere of influence in the Far East and of her attitude toward Corea that the opportunity to investigate personally was a more cogent reason for taking the trip than the merely personal one of health and recreation.

For fellow passengers on the Japanese steamer, one of a regular line which the Japan Mail Steamship Company maintains from Kobe via Moji and Nagasaki (Japan), Fusan and Gensan (Corea) to Vladivostock and return, we had Americans (both native and naturalized), Englishmen, Danes, Germans, Italians and Japanese, of course, while at the Corean ports one meets missionaries, officials of the Corean Customs Service and others. Hence there was ample material supplied to give one a pretty fair estimate of the general trend of opinion and seems to be the general impression that Corea will in the course of time become a province of the Russian Empire. Opinion varies as to length of time which is likely to shape before that fact is an accomplished one, some thinking it must be within three years now when with any appearance of knowledge or after having considered the matter carefully with due opportunity of study thought it likely to be deferred longer than ten years. Even some Japanese, and they were not lacking in loyalty, patriotism said they thought it was sure to happen, and saw no sufficient reason for Japan's going to war with Russia to prevent it. Corea is at present wretchedly governed.



BEFORE THE LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHINA.

Officers of administration, native instructors and foreign professors.